

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented herein.

The claims in the application are claims 1 to 20, the only claims presented. Claims 9 to 12 stand allowed and claims 5 and 17 were deemed allowable but were dependent on a rejected claim. Claim 13 has been amended to overcome the objection thereto.

Applicants are submitting herewith a sworn English translation of the Japanese priority application so the present application is now entitled to the Japanese filing date of July 22, 2004. This effectively removes the Mak reference with a filing date of August 17, 2004 and Kobayashi et al with a PCT filing date of August 12, 2004 as references.

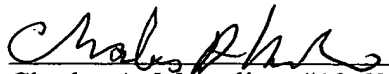
Claims 1, 6, 13 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Hoshino et al reference taken in view of the Mak et al reference and claims 2 to 4, 8, 14 to 16 and 20 were rejected over the same art taken in further view of Kobayashi et al. Claims 7 and 17 were rejected as being obvious over Hoshino et al and Mak et al taken in view of Tsai et al. The Examiner states that Hoshino et al discloses a method of preparing fluorocarbon films and concedes that it does not teach the formation of

voids in the fluorocarbon film by selectively removing volatile components contained in the film. He cites Mak et al for this feature.

Applicants traverse these grounds of rejection since as conceded by the Examiner Hoshino et al does not teach Applicants' step of forming voids by selectively removing volatile components contained in the film which is a critical step in Applicants' method. Since the Mak et al is not a reference, it cannot be relied upon and the rejections all fail. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the amendment to the claims and the above remarks, favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures



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